

4. A backflow preventor assembly, as claimed in claim 3, wherein said plurality of flow directions lie substantially in a plane substantially parallel to said inlet flow direction.

5. A backflow preventor assembly comprising:
first and second backflow preventor valves;
a housing encompassing said first and second backflow preventor valves, such that both of said valves automatically close if flow through said backflow preventor assembly drops below a predetermined value, said housing including an inlet opening defining an inlet flow direction, an outlet defining an outlet flow direction and a conduit providing fluid communication between said first and second backflow preventor valves; and
means for permitting movement of said outlet opening with respect to said inlet opening to cause a change in said outlet flow direction with respect to said inlet flow direction to any of an infinite member of outlet flow directions in a substantially leak-free manner.

6. A backflow preventor assembly, as claimed in claim 5, wherein said means for permitting movement includes first and second spaced-apart annular flats on said conduit configured to accommodate a pipe coupling apparatus after said conduit is separated by cutting.

7. A method for adjusting outflow direction in a backflow preventor assembly comprising:
providing first and second backflow preventor valves;
encompassing said first and second backflow preventor valves in a housing, such that both of said valves automatically close if flow through said backflow preventor assembly drops below a predetermined value, said housing including an inlet opening defining an inlet flow direction, an outlet defining an outlet flow direction and a conduit providing fluid communication between said first and second backflow preventor valves; and
moving at least a first portion of said conduit with respect to a second portion of said conduit to cause a change in said outlet flow direction with respect to said inlet flow direction to any of an infinite member of outlet flow directions in a substantially leak-free manner.

8. A method, as claimed in claim 7, wherein said conduit includes first and second spaced-apart annular flats, and further comprising:
cutting said housing between said first and second flats to separate said conduit into first and second portions;
rotating said first portion with respect to said second portion; and
connecting said first and second portions with a connector.

9. A backflow preventor apparatus for connection to parallel, oppositely-flowing inlet and outlet conduits, comprising:
a housing configured to accommodate first and second valves, and to receive fluid flow from said inlet conduit flowing in a first direction;
a first valve mounted in said housing having a seatable valve disc having an edge, movable between a closed configuration preventing flow and an open configuration permitting flow in the absence of substantial divergent flow around the edge of said first valve disc;
a second valve mounted in said housing having a seatable valve disc having an edge, movable between a closed configuration preventing flow and an open configuration permitting flow in the absence of substantial diverging flow around the edge of said second valve disc;
said fluid flow having an average streamline path between said inlet conduit and said outlet conduit wherein the sum of changes in flow direction of said average streamline path is not substantially greater than about 180 degrees;
said first valve disc, when in said open configuration, being positioned to direct said flow from said first direction to provide flow in a second direction towards said second valve;
said second valve disc, when in said open configuration, being positioned to direct said flow from said second direction to a third direction towards said outlet conduit; and
wherein said housing is reconfigurable to a second configuration to cause a change in said flow from said second direction to a fourth direction, different from said third direction wherein said fourth direction is any of an infinite member of outflow directions.

10. A backflow prevention valve, as claimed in claim 1, further comprising gasket means for sealably coupling the first and second portions of the conduit.

Please add the following new claims 11-27:

--11. A backflow preventor comprising:

first and second backflow preventor valves;

a conduit which directs flow at least from said first backflow preventor valve to said second backflow preventor valve, said conduit having a first inlet opening defining an inlet flow direction and a second outlet opening defining an outlet flow direction wherein the average direction of said flow

between said first backflow preventor valve and said second backflow preventor valve is non-collinear with said inlet flow direction and is substantially at a first angle to said inlet flow direction;

wherein at least a first portion of said conduit is movable with respect to a second portion of said conduit to cause a change in said outlet flow direction with respect to said inlet flow direction to any of a plurality of outlet flow directions in a substantially leak-free manner.--

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--12. A backflow preventor, as claimed in claim 11, wherein said average direction of said flow between said first backflow preventor valve and said second backflow preventor valve is non-collinear with said outlet flow direction and is substantially at a second angle to said outlet flow direction.--

--13. A backflow preventor, as claimed in claim 11, wherein the total change in direction of the average streamline of flow through said backflow preventor from said inlet direction to said outlet direction is about 180°.--

--14. A backflow preventor, as claimed in claim 11, wherein said first and second conduit portions comprise substantially flat adjacent faces.--

--15. A backflow preventor, as claimed in claim 14, wherein said flat faces of first and second conduit portions are held adjacent one another in said substantially leak-free manner by a coupler means.--

--16. A backflow preventor, as claimed in claim 15, wherein said coupler means comprises bolts.--

--17. A backflow preventor, as claimed in claim 11 further comprising a gasket for use in maintaining said first and second conduit portions in said substantially leak-free manner.--

--18. A backflow preventor, as claimed in claim 17 wherein said gasket is substantially annular in shape.--

--19. A backflow preventor, as claimed in claim 11, wherein all of said plurality of outflow directions lie in a plane substantially parallel to said inflow direction.--

--20. A backflow preventor, as claimed in claim 11, wherein at least a portion of the conduit between said first backflow preventor valve and said second backflow preventor valve slopes downwardly.--

--21. A backflow preventor, as claimed in claim 11, further comprising first and second shutoff valves.--

--22. A backflow preventor, as claimed in claim 21, wherein said first shutoff valve is vertically displaced from said first and second backflow preventor valves.--

--23. A backflow preventor, as claimed in claim 11 wherein each of said first and second backflow preventor valves extends along an axis and wherein the axis of said first backflow preventor valve is at approximately 90° to the axis of said second backflow preventor valve.--

--24. A backflow preventor, as claimed in claim 11, wherein said inlet and outlet openings define first and second flanges and wherein said first and second flanges can be configured to lie in planes vertically displaced from said backflow preventor valves.--

--25. A backflow preventor, as claimed in claim 11, wherein said conduit is provided in at least two separate pieces.--

--26. A backflow preventor comprising:

first and second backflow preventor valves;

a conduit which directs flow at least from said first backflow preventor valve to said second backflow preventor valve, said conduit having a first inlet opening defining an inlet flow direction and a second outlet opening defining an outlet flow direction wherein the average direction of said flow between said first backflow preventor valve and said second backflow preventor valve is non-collinear with said inlet flow direction and is substantially at a first angle to said inlet flow direction;

means for permitting movement of a first portion of said conduit with respect to a second portion of said conduit to cause a change in said outlet flow direction with respect to said inlet flow direction to any of a plurality of outlet flow directions in a substantially leak-free manner.--

--27. A method for adjusting outflow direction in a backflow preventor comprising:

providing first and second backflow preventor valves;

encompassing said first and second backflow preventor valves with a conduit which directs flow at least from said first backflow preventor valve to said second backflow preventor valve, said conduit having a first inlet opening defining an inlet flow direction and a second outlet opening defining an outlet